

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6743

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL IZMIR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISTANBUL 3909

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, TU

SUBJ: STUDENT DEATH PROVOKES DEMONSTRATION

REF: ISTANBUL 3862

SUMMARY: DEATH OF STUDENT IN RIGHT-LEFT CLASH SPURRED
DEMONSTRATIONS BY RIGHT-WING IDEALIST HEARTHS. "NEITHER
RUSSIA NOR AMERICA" MARCH. HOWEVEVER, PASSED WITHOUT
INCIDENT. POLICE TAKING STRICT SECURITY MEASURES IN
STUDENT AREAS. END SUMMARY.

1. DEATH OF A STUDENT NOV 22 SPARKED DEMONSTRATIONS OVER WEEKEND BY
SEVERAL THOUSAND YOUTHS LINKED WITH IDEALIST HEARTHS
ORGANIZATION. VICTIM ISMAIL TIGLI, STUDENT AT ISTANBUL
TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY (ITU) AND A MEMBER OF THE IDEALIST
HEARTHS, WAS KILLED WHEN FIGHTING BROKE OUT BETWEEN OPPOSING GROUPS
EACH TRYING TO PUT UP POSTERS. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS,
STUDENTS POSTING ANNOUNCEMENTS OF "NEITHER RUSSIA NOR AMERICA"
MARCH (REFTEL) CLASHED WITH CONSERVATIVE YOUTH PUBLICIZING
SPEECH BY NATIONAL ACTION PARTY (NAP) LEADER, ALSPARSLAN
TURKES. AS CLASH INTENSIFIED, SHOTS WERE FIRED,
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KILLING TIGLI AND WOUNDING OTHERS ON SCENE.

2. FOLLOWING TIGLI'S DEATH LARGE GROUP OF PRO-RIGHT YOUTHS MARCHED THROUGH CENTER OF CITY TO MORGUE, DISRUPTING TRAFFIC, BREAKING CAR WINDOWS AND STONING BUILDINGS ON WAY. DEMONSTRATORS DEMANDING TIGLI'S BODY CHANTED SLOGANS CONDEMNING REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP), AND COMMUNISM. AFTER AUTHORITIES AGREED TO RELEASE BODY AFTER AUTOPSY, GROUP PROCEEDED TO LALELI ARE OF CITY WHERE IIT ATTACKED A CAFE POPULAR WITH LEFT. NEXT DAY, IDEALIST HEARTHS LED LARGE FUNERAL CORTEGE TO MEMORIAL SERVICE ON SPOT WHERE TIGLI DIED. PRIOR TO CEREMONIES LOCAL IDEALIST HEARTHS LEADER MUSTAFA VERKAYA CALLED ON MINISTER OF INTERIOR AND GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE PROPER PROTECTION FOR STUDENTS.

3. "NEITHER RUSSIA NOR AMERICA" MARCHERS NUMBERING A FEW HUNDRED REACHED TAKSIM SQUARE NOV 23. ACCORDING PRESS REPORTS SPEAKERS CONDEMNED FASCISM AND CALLED FOR INDEPENDENT TURKEY FREE OF ANY FOREIGN MILITARY PRESENCE INCLUDING WARSAW PACT. SOME MARCHERS ALSO HAD PLACARDS PROTESTING "OPPRESSION IN THE EAST", A EUPHEMISM FOR GOVERNMENT MEASURES AGAINST KURDISH NATIONALISM. DRIVING RAINS DISCOURAGED SPECTATORS AND MEETING PASSED WITHOUT MAJOR INCIDENT.

4. IN WAKE OF VIOLENCE, PLICE LAUNCHED SEARCH OF VEHICLES AND BUILDINGS IN AREAS WHERE MAJORITY OF STUDENS ARE CONCENTRATED. SEARCHES REPORTEDLY PRODUCED SEVERAL FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER WEAPONS. MILLIYET NEWSPAPER QUOTES ISTANBUL POLICE CHIEF ARIF YUKSEL AS SAYING THAT POLICE INTEND TO TAKE TIGHTER SECURITY MEASURES INCLUDING ADDITIONAL SEARCHES OF THIS KIND.
MACE

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